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Chief, Administrative Staff

4 February 1958

THRU : Chief, Economic Area
Chief, Materials Division

Missions and Functions

REF : Your memorandum on above subject dated 10 January 1958

1. Attached are suggested revisions to the statements of missions and functions of the Materials Division and its ancillary branches.

2. The D/M branches are currently organized into sections as follows:

- a.) Agriculture Branch
 - 1) USSR Section
 - 2) European Satellites Section
 - 3) Far East Section
- b.) Chemicals Branch
 - 1) USSR Section
 - 2) Satellite Section
 - 3) Economics Section
- c.) Ferrous Metals Branch
 - 1) USSR Section
 - 2) European Satellites Section
 - 3) Far East Section
- d.) Fuels and Power Branch
 - 1) USSR Petroleum and Solid Fuels Section
 - 2) USSR Electric Power Section
 - 3) European Satellites Section
 - 4) Far East Section
 - 5) Nuclear Energy Section
- e.) Non-Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch
 - 1) USSR Section
 - 2) Satellites Section
 - 3) Economics Section

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SUBJECT: Missions and Functions

3. With the exception of the Fuels and Power Branch, responsibility for specific sections of the NIS has not been included in the missions statements. If it becomes desirable to include specific NIS responsibilities the information can be made available.

4. Paragraph 8 of the functions of the Non-Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch specifies support to the IAC on matters pertaining to exchange delegations. Although the other branches of D/M have not included this as a specific item of their functions, it may be desirable to include such a statement in the functions of each branch.

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Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Ch/St/A
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Attachment - 6

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RR:D/M: [REDACTED] :nkg/3011 (4 Feb. 58)

-2-

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~~SECRET~~Comments on Area Training Courses

The experience of analysts from the Materials Division with the internal area training courses offered by the Office of Training has not been overly successful. The area training courses have generally been designed and presented on an overall Agency interest basis rather than being specifically geared to the needs and interests of ORR analysts.

Analysts of the Materials Division below the Branch Chief level are generally interested in specific commodities in special areas of the Sino-Soviet Bloc. For example, an analyst will follow the petroleum industry in Communist China and the Far East Satellites and will have little or no familiarity with the petroleum industry in the USSR and the European Satellites. Similarly, an analyst doing research on the ferrous metals industry of the USSR will have only nominal interest in the ferrous metals industry of the European Satellites and Communist China.

In view of the specific areas and fields of interest of Materials Division analysts, it would be of greater benefit to them if the area training courses could be reduced in scope and intensified with respect to economic aspects. Few analysts are interested, for example, in a course which might attempt to cover the "Economic Aspects of the Sino-Soviet Bloc" in 40-60 hours. On the other hand, a 40-60 hour course on the "Economy of Communist China" which would cover some economic geography including resources, the agricultural economy, specific areas of the industrial economy and the inter-relationship of the various sectors of the economy would be well received. A similar course for the USSR and each of the European Satellites would also be worthwhile. These courses would provide only a passing mention of political, military, cultural and ethnic characteristics of the countries while concentrating in depth on the economics of these countries.

There should not be a language prerequisite for the economic courses and these courses should not be used as a vehicle for language instruction.

It would be highly desirable if the courses could be given in the "N" building area with sufficient advance notice to allow for the arrangement of schedules which would permit maximum attendance. It would be difficult to schedule attendance during the preparation of NIR's and NIS's.

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